(a) whether it is a fact that the price of Aviation Turbine Fuel which is used by the aircrafts for flights, are being fixed on the basis of prices prevailing in international market;

(b) if not, the basis on which the said price is being fixed;

(c) whether any proposal has been submitted to the concerned department for reducing its prices; and

(d) if so, how much reduction is sought in the proposal and the price of said fuel in the country for foreign flights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A proposal has been submitted to Ministry of Finance for notifying ATF as 'declared goods' under Section 14 of the Central Sales Tax Act. This would lead to capping of sales tax @ 4% as against present average sales tax incidence @ 25%, thereby substantially reducing consumer price of ATF.

Further, Government has already decided to treat the sale of ATF to the international flights of national carriers as "deemed exports" under Sec. 5 of the Central Sales Tax Act. This measure is likely to reduce the price of ATF for international flights of national carriers by about Rs. 5000/- per killolitre at March, 2005 levels.

Dilution of Government equity in Air India and Indian Airlines

2166. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether Air India and Indian Airlines intend to off load 10 per cent of Government share to public;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the amount that is expected to be generated by this off loading and the details of purposes for which the money would be used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The issue of an Initial Public Offerings for Air India and Indian Airlines is at a preliminary stage of discussion.

Screening of pornographic films at IGI Airport, Delhi

2167. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pornographic films have been screened at IGI Airport, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of persons arrested in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) It was informed to the office of the Airport Manager on 7.1.2005 that an obscene film was being shown in one of the entertainment TVs in the arrival visitor's lounge at Terminal-II. On verification, it was found that one of the news channels had been changed at source to "Trinity Channel" which was showing the obscene film. The TV was immediately switched off and the matter was taken up with the Cable Operator and F.I.R. has also been lodged at Terminal-II Police Station. No arrests have been made so far.

Pending Air Service Agreement

2168. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) names of the countries with who Bilateral Air Services Agreement entered into by Government during the last three year;

(b) the utilization of seats by the Indian and foreign carriers under these agreements during the last years;

(c) whether any proposal pertaining to the signing of the Bilateral Air Services Agreements is presently under the consideration of Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?